DNREC announces availability of Community Environmental Project Fund grant applications

Public workshops set for Nov. 14 and 15 on CEPF grant process and environmental project funding program

DOVER — Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control Secretary Shawn M. Garvin today announced the availability of Community Environmental Project Fund (CEPF) applications administered by the Department. The CEPF grant program was created in 2004 by House Bill 192, as legislation that enables DNREC to withhold 25 percent of all civil or administrative penalties collected by the Department as CEPF funds.

HB 192 requires that CEPF funds benefit communities where civil or administrative violations occurred, and provides for the restoration of these affected communities by funding environmental projects that:

- Reduce pollution.
- Enhance natural resources.
- Enhance natural resources for the purposes of creating recreational opportunities for the citizens of Delaware.

IRS tax-exempt organizations are eligible for CEPF grants of up to \$20,000. Applications for the CEPF grants can be found on the DNREC website, or can be obtained by calling James Brunswick, DNREC community ombudsman, at 302-739-9040. The CEPF grant application deadline is Friday, Jan. 4, 2019 by DNREC's close of business (4:30 p.m.)

DNREC will hold two public workshops Nov. 14 and 15 on the

CEPF grant-funding program, scheduled as follows:

- New Castle County: Wednesday, Nov. 14, 7-7:30 p.m., at DNREC's Lukens Drive offices (Conference Room A, 391 Lukens Drive, New Castle, DE 19720)
- Kent and Sussex Counties: Thursday, Nov. 15, 7-7:30 p.m. DNREC Auditorium, Richardson & Robbins Building, 89 Kings Highway, Dover DE 19901

Pre-registration is requested, but not required. Please email Lisa Myura or call 302-855-1915 to pre-register.

For an application form, and more information on the CEPF grant program, please visit the <u>Community Environmental Project Fund web page</u>.